

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

In the Office Action mailed July 23, 2007: claims 13-17, 19, 20, 22-24, 26, 27 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tarleton in view of Ozu et al.; and claims 18, 21, 25, 28, 30 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tarleton in view of Ozu et al., and further in view of Suzuki et al. and Park.

In reply to the positions taken by the Examiner, claim 13 has been amended and claim 32 has been added. Claim 13 now recites:

A hermetically sealed electrically driven compressor comprising:

a compressor element elastically supported in an enclosed container;

a cup-shaped stopper fixed to an inner upper part of said enclosed container, said cup-shaped stopper having a curved protrusion extending inwardly from an innermost inner peripheral surface of said cup-shaped stopper;

a crankshaft associated with said compressor element, with an upper end portion of said crankshaft extending into said cup-shaped stopper, and being spaced from said inner peripheral surface of said cup-shaped stopper with no structure existing between said upper end portion and said inner peripheral surface, such that said upper end portion of said crank shaft is designed to contact said curved protrusion and said inner peripheral surface upon oscillation of said compressor element; and

a motor element for driving said compressor element.

Accordingly, claim 13 now requires that the upper end portion of the crankshaft is spaced from an inner peripheral surface of the cup-shaped stopper with no structure existing between the upper end portion and the inner peripheral surface such that the upper end portion of the crankshaft is designed to contact the curved protrusion and the inner peripheral surface upon oscillation of the compressor element. The amendments to claim 13 are believed to be supported by the original specification at page 5, lines 1-14, for example.

The features added to claim 13 are lacking from the references relied upon by the Examiner. Specifically, in Tarleton structure exists between crankshaft 48 and the peripheral surface (84 as identified by the Examiner) of can 74 (cup-shaped stopper) from which member 88 (curved protrusion) extends, with this structure corresponding to cylindrical sleeve 76; and because of such existence of this cylindrical sleeve the upper end portion of the crankshaft cannot contact the curved protrusion and the peripheral surface upon oscillation of the compressor element.

This deficiency of Tarleton is not remedied by any of Ozu et al., Suzuki et al. and Park, whereby claims 13-32 are allowable over the relied-upon references either taken alone or in combination.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner believes that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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